



NEWS RELEASE

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Disbarred Attorney Charged with Unauthorized Practice of Law, Identity Theft

A disbarred attorney was charged today with representing clients in court by using the identity of a licensed attorney, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Armen Gekchyan (dob 4/5/76) is scheduled to be arraigned after 1:30 p. m. at the Foltz Criminal Justice Center, Department 30, in case BA433289. Prosecutors are asking that bail be set at \$150,000.

Deputy District Attorney Arisa Mattson with the Justice System Integrity Division is prosecuting the case.

Gekchyan was arrested Wednesday after he made an appearance at the Los Angeles Superior Court in Van Nuys.

Gekchyan, who was disbarred in 2012, was allegedly using the name of a licensed attorney when he appeared in court on behalf of clients on Jan. 15, Jan. 21 and Jan. 28. He is charged with three counts each of unauthorized practice of law and identity theft.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.